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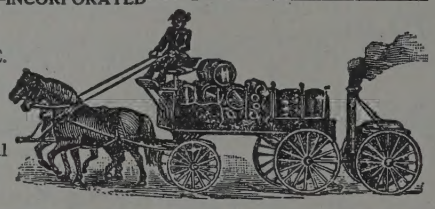

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UNITY

"HE HATH MADE OF ONE ALL NATIONS OF MEN"

Volume LXIV. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1909. NUMBER 15.

Unity's "Five Feet of Culture"

We offer our readers this week our annual book number in enlarged form, the entire space of which is devoted to the result of the quest indicated in the above title. In the sixty or more answers received upwards of five hundred titles have been offered. Following the list of books, and the votes received by each, we publish the letters themselves, essentially unedited, for it is the local color, so to speak, the individual bias, the personal equation that makes these lists interesting and valuable. The fun anticipated in our letter comes in discovering how our correspondents squirm under the vivisecting probe. The wisdom appears in discovering how impossible it is for one to formulate a list of twenty-five books satisfactorily to himself, and how still more impossible is it for any one to formulate a list for another. But this coöperative prospecting in the literary strata of the world can but be interesting and reassuring to the expert, and very informing and inspiring to the amateur reader.

The Welsh have an adage that is suggestive in this connection:

"'Y' ddafad a sycheda pan gwelith y dwr,"

"The sheep thirsts when it sees the water." This tempting list cannot fail to awaken a holy thirst in the soul of the young library collector. It will prove a safe and profitable lure to the inexperienced reader. If the publication of these lists shall be a means of luring one boy or girl from the wasteful habit of shallow reading of casual books, wasting their time on "juvenile literature" and magazine stories of a "good" quality, we will be contented. Our educational schemes, schools, and favored homes have much to account for in this direction. No technical agility of mind or hand, no scientific information, no familiarity with "current events" and the fugitive literature of today can atone for the lack of a reading habit acquired early, growing with intensity through life, of communion with the immortals, of an acquaintance with the perennial classics that contain the truly acquired and accumulated treasures of civilization. There are books in the lists which follow that should early engage the attention and are calculated to enlist the interest and awaken the enthusiasm of the boys and girls in the eighth grade. If one begins to read on lines of real literature in his teens, and persists in giving but a few moments a day in the delightful quest, most of the books mentioned below might be compassed before the three score and ten is reached. Given the purpose to read on these lines, and the essentials of culture will follow. Failing here, all the other schools and endowments will leave the mind largely unfurnished and the soul uncultured.

This correspondence, and the lists compiled therefrom are offered like the accountant's trial balance sheet, "E. & O. C." The "errors" and "omissions" are doubtless many, some of them owing to the carelessness of our correspondents, but more of them, doubtless, to the inaccuracies incident to hasty work. Corrections and further suggestions will be gladly received.

THE LETTER

From Unity, October 15, 1909

Theodore Parker's contention was, "Everybody knows more than anybody." Dr. Eliot, Ex-President of Harvard College, has given rise to much newspaper comment and social discussion and has probably laid the foundation for a successful piece of business on the part of the publishers in his quest for a five-foot shelf of books, the reading and appreciation of which would indicate a liberal culture.

In this as in all other intellectual pursuits, the quest is worth more than the quarry when captured, and so we propose to invite UNITY readers and its collateral friends to help us furnish an "Unity Shelf" on the same general lines that are pursued by Dr. Eliot. For obvious reasons the Bible, Shakespeare, and all technical books and books of information are to be excluded unless they reach the indescribable realm of literature because possessed of classic value by virtue of the way they are done as well as by the substance of which they are made.

We will ask the friends to limit their lists, as far as possible, to the twenty-five most helpful and indispensable books, to them, for we suspect that when the list is extended beyond this number it grows more hazy. Out of the answers thus received the fifty books receiving the highest number of votes will represent the UNITY Book Shelf, and the result will be published in the annual Book Number of UNITY under date of December 2, 1909.

By this method many years ago we compiled the list of "Ten Great Novels," and later, "Ten Noble Poems," which have proved of much value to many people, not only in the direction of individual reading but in the promotion of study classes. We cordially invite new friends, particularly teachers, preachers, and those whose business it is to deal with books, to help make the list as rich as possible. The invitation is general and cordial. Answers ought to be in not later than the 20th of November in order that there may be time for the compilation.

Adams, Emma S., Chicago.

Twenty-five helpful and indispensable books: Homer's Iliad, Greek Tragedies (including Aeschylus' Prometheus Bound, Antigone of Sophocles, Alcestis and Orestes of Euripides,) Marcus Aurelius, Epictetus, Thomas à Kempis' Imitation of Christ, Dante's Inferno, Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, Milton's Paradise Lost (first three books), and Minor Poems, DeQuincey's Essays on the Poets and Miscellaneous Essays, Ruskin's Sesame and Lilies and Ethics of the Dust, Emerson's Conduct of Life and Poems, Charles Lamb's Essays of Elia, Wordsworth's Poems, Tennyson's Poems, Browning's Shorter Poems and the Ring and the Book, Omar Khayyam (Fitzgerald), Percy's Reliques, The Golden Treasury, Stedman's American Anthology, Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice, and Emma, Dickens' David Copperfield, Thackeray's Vanity Fair, George Eliot's Middlemarch, Plays of Bernard Shaw, Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass.

Andrews, Rev. Mary Elizabeth, New York City.

Books which have influenced me: Renan's Life of Jesus, Buckle's History of Civilization in England, Gibbon's History of Rome, Booker T. Washington's Up From Slavery, Palmer's Life of Alice Freeman Palmer, Plato's Republic, and Phaedo, Kant's Critique of Pure Reason, Royce's Spirit of Modern Philosophy, Paine's Age of Reason, Emerson's Conduct of Life, Na-

ture and Other Essays, First and Second Series of Essays, Society and Solitude; Montaigne's Essays, Walter Pater's Marius the Epicurean, Simmons' New Tables of Stone, Lloyd's New Creations of Man, Browning's Ring and the Book and Blot in the 'Scutcheon, Shelley's Complete Poems, Keats' Complete Poems, Dante's Divine Comedy, Emerson's Poems, Goethe's Faust, Wordsworth's Prelude and Ten Great Poems, Alcott's Little Women and Old Fashioned Girl, Hugo's Les Miserables, Eliot's Mill on the Floss, Middlemarch and Adam Bede, Meredith's Egoist, Robert Herrick's Together, Hawthorne's Scarlet Letter.

Buck, Rev. Florence, Kenosha, Wisconsin.

The first of your two adjectives (helpful and indispensable), if considered alone, would make my list go so far above the twenty-five title mark that it might not prove helpful to any one else. The second, however, has enabled me to decide on a single title: my "indispensable" is the Dialogues of Plato, Jowett's translation. Since these, with the notes, fill five large volumes, they go a long way on your "Five Feet of Culture;" for actual value, I am inclined to think they cover the entire shelf.

Butler, Elvine, Minneapolis, Minn.

I fear my list of books will serve only to illustrate my idiosyncrasies. The following have been the most helpful to me: Poems: Wordsworth, Browning, Shelley, Lowell, Tennyson; Divine Comedy, Dante; Faust, Goethe; Dramas. Aeschylus, Sophocles, Lessing, particularly Nathan de Weise; Dialogues, Plato; Ethics, Spinosa; Meditations, Marcus Aurelius; Discourses, Epictetus; Liberty, John Stuart Mill; Essays, Emerson; Sartor Resartus, Carlyle; New Tables of Stone, Henry M. Simmons; Origin of Species, Darwin, History of Civilization, Buckle; History of the Rise of Rationalism, Lecky; History of the Renaissance, Symonds; Lives, Plutarch, Marius the Epicurean, Walter Pater; Anthology, Ruskin,—a collection of great thoughts from his writings. If there isn't such a book there ought to be one. If there were room for novels in this list, I would write: Adam Bede, George Eliot; The Cloister and the Hearth, Charles Reade; The Egoist, George Meredith.

Butler, Professor Nathaniel, University of Chicago.

In reply to your note of October 18th, I am writing without having had opportunity for the amount of careful reflection which your inquiries certainly deserve, and I am quite sure that the books which I am going to name have already been included in your previously published lists. Those which occur to me while I am writing are: Lorna Doone, Uncle Tom's Cabin, Tom Brown at Rugby, Tom Brown at Oxford, David Copperfield, Kipling's Soldiers Three, Bob, Son of Battle, Sentimental Tommy, Adam Bede and Silas Marner. For poetry one of course thinks of Browning, Wordsworth, Eugene Field, Stevenson, and the Canterbury Tales. For essays, Sartor Resartus, and selections from the essays of Morrison and Joseph Addison. Of course one might go on indefinitely with books that belong in the same group. I fear that I have not contributed anything to your problem. Of course you are familiar with Miss McMahan's little book entitled, "The Study Class." This is full of good suggestions.

Calthrop, Rev. S. R., Syracuse, N. Y.

I send you a list of books which have helped me most, exclusive of the Bible. I love them all: Homer, Herodotus, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Thucydides, Plato (Phaedo, Georgias, Phaedus, Timaeus, Republic), Aristotle, (Ethics, Polity of Athens), Vergil, Horace, Livy, Tacitus, Marcus Antoninus, Epictetus (thirteen ancients); Dante, Shakespeare, Goethe (Faust), Victor Hugo (Les Miserables and '93), Tennyson, Browning, Emerson, Carlyle, Newton, Spinoza, Encyclopedia Britannica, Editions IX and X. (twelve moderns.)

Carpenter, F. I., University of Chicago.

Your guessing contest under the fetching title of "Unity's Five Feet of Culture" lures me again. I find it hard to render a scholastic answer according to the rules of the game. As we grow older things are less absolute and values become more subtle and complex. Opportunism and the past of each man's culture dominate him. But the following I would venture as my approximation of the "Five Feet." (I specify editions in most cases): Homer, Iliad (Lang, Leaf & Myers) to be used along with a copy of the original Odyssey (Butcher & Lang); Plato, Jowett's translations; Dante, Carlyle's Inferno, Butler's Purgatory and Paradise (with original text); Crepet Les Pöetes Francais 4 vol. (There is great virtue of compactness and inclusiveness in a good anthology); Goethe's Faust; Montaigne (I confess to the use of the Cotton translation, because I first met Montaigne in that dress. But I have the original and occasionally refer to it); Ward's English Poets; The Oxford Book of English Verse, or Palgrave's Golden Treasury. Chaucer, the Globe edition (although I use Skeat's 6 Vol. edition). Spencer, the Cambridge edition (ed. Dodge). Shakespeare, Sonnets (say in Canterbury Poets edition! I specify the sonnets, for fear lest your obligato inclusion of "Shakespeare" might miss these "deep-brained" poems; Bacon, The Advancement of Learning (ed. Wright); Milton, Cambridge edition (ed. Moody); Wordsworth, Globe edition (with introduction by Morley); Coleridge, Globe edition (ed. Campbell); Shelley, Globe edition (ed. Dowden); Keats, Muses' Library edition; Byron (Dare I name my volume of selections, or is there room for the complete works by Coleridge and Prothero? If only one work may be included I should be bold enough to choose the unedifying but intensely dynamic Don Juan); Tennyson, Globe edition; Robert Browning, Globe edition, two volumes; M. Arnold, Poetical Works, Globe edition; Wm. Morris, Sigurd the Volsung; Emerson, Complete Works. If the five feet still have room to spare I would add Dryden and Pope (Globe editions) D. G. Rossetti, Walter Scott (Poems) something of Landor (we need a good comprehensive anthology for him, a big fat volume, verses as well as prose) Ben Johnson, Stedman's Victorian Anthology, and his American Anthology, and the half dozen indispensables that I have doubtless overlooked in the hurry of this compilation, for I have not checked off from any "Best Book" list.

Cary, Prof. George, Meadville, Pa.

If I were to ask you to name your twenty-five best friends, and you should be so rash as to undertake to do it, wouldn't you have a time of it? It is not much easier to name one's twenty-five "Best Books." There are always so many leaning against the wall which surrounds the sacred enclosure, but whether inside or out, it is almost impossible to tell. I enclose a list, the best I can make out at the present moment; tomorrow I might make a somewhat different one; emulating the inconsistency of Dr. Bellows who said that he was glad if he could be consistent two days in succession. This is my list: Homer's Iliad and Odyssey, Translation of William Cullen Bryant; Vergil's Aeneid, Dryden's Translation, Don Quixote; Memoirs of Benvenuto Cellini, translated by Thomas Roscoe; Tennyson's In Memoriam; Longfellow's Hiawatha; Bacon's Essays; Emerson's Essays; The Prometheus and Agamemnon of Aeschylus, translated by Herbert; Dante's Divine Comedy, translated by H. W. Longfellow; Goldsmith's Vicar of Wakefield; De Quincey's Confessions of an Opium Eater; Dr. Samuel Johnson's Rasselas; Lamb's Essays of Elia; Hawthorne's Marble Faun; Sir Walter Scott's Ivanhoe; Goethe's Faust, translated by Anna Swannick; Plato's Phaedo, translated by Henry Cary; Cicero's Cato Major, translated by Edmonds; Walton, Complete Angler; Robert Browning's Saul; Sir Thomas More's Utopia; Milton's Il Penseroso and L'Allegro; Holmes' Autocrat of the Breakfast Table; Dickens' Pickwick Papers.

Chamberlain, J. H., Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio.

President Perry has handed me your favor of October 18 in regard to Unity's "Five Feet of Culture," and asked me to reply for him. The task of naming twenty-five "indispensable books" is an impossible one. I, however, give a list of writers who seem to me to have been and likely to be of most service to the world. The individual books by these authors which I regard best are not named as there is an apparent injustice in naming a poet which would mean his poems, no one of which would be considered indispensable, and placing beside him a volume of essays or a novel by one of the prose writers. Besides, the great novelists have written a number of books of almost equal value. If, how-

ever, the list is not what you want, I can perhaps be more specific in the case of at least some of the writers. My list is as follows: Homer, Plato, Dante, Milton, Wordsworth, Shelley, Browning, Tennyson, Addison, Goldsmith, Lamb, Carlyle, Macaulay, Ruskin, Arnold, Scott, Dickens, George Eliot, Thackeray, Meredith, Emerson, Lowell, Irving, Longfellow, Aldrich.

Catlin, H. D., Northumberland, Pa.

Yours of the 18th inst. just received this morning, asking me for a list of my "indispensables," by which I take it, you mean the books which have meant the most to me, and done the most to make me what I am. And yet these might not be the great, or most useful books to others. Then again, the reading that, on the whole, has done the most to shape my life and thinking, at least along political, historical, and to some extent, literary and theological lines, has not been of books, but of thirty odd volumes of the New York *Nation*. However, I have run over my books, and will give you a list of some of those I have prized the most and which I think have entered most into the warp and woof of my life. The list is brief, and even so you may have to shorten it by dropping some out that do not come within the scope of your plan: Tennyson's In Memoriam, Tennyson's Two Voices, Tennyson's The Princess, Lowell's Great Order, and some minor poems; Longfellow's Evangeline and The Golden Legend, Dean Stanley's Sinai and Palestine, (this gave me about my first insight into the Bible); W. D. Whitney's Language and the Study of Language, Martineau's Essays, Theological and Philosophical, J. S. Mill's On Liberty, Lecky's History of Rationalism, A. S. Farrar's Critical History of Free Thought, John Fiske's The Idea of God and The Destiny of Man, Geo. Macdonald's David Elginbrod and Robert Falconer, Mrs. Humphry Ward's Robert Elsmere. I suppose there are several others I do not recall. My favorite studies and reading have been along the line of Philology, Archaeology and History, and so would hardly come within the scope of your plan.

Colegrove, James, Pasadena, Cal.

I herewith submit my list of books without any comment. If necessary, I can give a reason for the choice: Homer Aeschylus, Selections from Plato, including Phaedo, Crito and the Apology, Chaucer, Spenser, Milton, especially the Minor Poems; Faust, Wilhelm Meister, Don Quixote, Les Miserables, Carlyle's French Revolution, Emerson's Essays and Poems, Robert Browning, Wordsworth, Shelley, Keats, Tennyson, Lowell's Poems, Darwin's Origin of Species, Vicar of Wakefield, Henry Esmond, Gray's Elegy, Imitation of Christ, Marcus Aurelius, Lady of the Lake.

Cooke, Rev. George Willis, Wakefield, Mass.

I have set down here the titles of thirty-five books which, if carefully read, in connection with some brief account of the authors and some attention to the characteristics of the periods when they were produced, will give the reader a fairly good insight into the social and intellectual development of mankind, and some of the most important factors of culture. I have not named popular books or those likely to win in a prize contest: Analects of Confucius, Laws of Manu, Bhagavad-Gita, the Iliad of Homer, Dramas of Aeschylus, Plato's Republic, Aristotle's Politics, Marcus Aurelius' Thoughts, Epictetus' Discourses, Cicero's Republic, Augustine's City of God, Jerome's Letters, Chrysostom's Sermons, Nibelungen Lied, Malory's Death of King Arthur, Chronicles of Froissart, Dante's Divine Comedy, Petrarch's Letters, Cervantes' Don Quixote, Montaigne's Essays, Bacon's Essays, Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, Milton's Aropagitica, Goethe's Wilhelm Meister, Darwin's Descent of Man, Tylor's Primitive Culture, Morgan's Ancient Society, De Coulanges' Ancient City, Bagehot's Physics and Politics, Mill's Liberty, Spencer's First Principles, Emerson's First Series of Essays, Whitman's Leaves of Grass, Ibsen's Social Plays, Tolstoy's Resurrection.

Crane, Caroline Bartlett, Kalamazoo, Mich.

I have had much joy in preparing this list. This is how I did it: I went through all the books in my library and laid out those which I owed must to; then, I found I had thirty-one; and I put back six, leaving the twenty-five to which I feel I owe the most. Now there may be others, which I do not own, that ought to be included, but I do not recall them. These are the books I live with. There is so much I could say of some of them—like "The Life of Dorothea Dix," which helps me every day, and the tremendous effect of "Looking Backward," read in the fastness of the Adirondacks. I came out and looked on the world with new eyes,—and the new view has lasted. And Ingersoll's brave words will some day be appreciated for what they are worth. I am glad to pay my tribute now. Emerson's Poems, I found one day years ago, I knew by heart, without ever trying to commit them.

And one single poem of Arnold's, the one with the lines,

"But tasks in hours of insight willed
May be through hours of gloom fulfilled,"

has given me my chosen motto for life. And so few people seem to know Olive Schreiner's wonderful "Peter Halket." Why don't you tell them about it? And if people want to get a profound respect for science and for truth-telling, and for "the difference in value between fifteen and ten minutes," let them read Darwin's "Life and Letters," by his son. And I could not leave out the "Unity Hymn Book," with all its wonderful hymns, so many of them by those we personally know and love. And Susan Coolidge's collection is such a provocation to know more of the people she quotes,—I could not leave it out.

This may not seem coherent, but that may be because I have paid no attention to what should have most influenced my life, and have just told you what did. This is the list: Jowett's Plato, Discourses of Epictetus, Meditations of Marcus Aurelius, the Four Gospels and Paul's Epistles, Thomas à Kempis' Imitation of Christ, Martineau's Endeavors after the Christian Life, Emerson's Poems, also his Essays, Whittier's Poems, Tennyson's Poems, Matthew Arnold's Poems, the Hymns in the Unity Hymn Book, the Prayers of Theodore Parker, Olive Schreiner's Dreams and Peter Halket, Bellamy's Looking Backward, Booth's Darkest England, Robert G. Ingersoll's Prose Poems and Liberty of Man, Woman and Child, Spencer's First Principles, Lecky's History of Rationalism in Europe, Matthew Arnold's Literature and Dogma, Life and Letters of Charles Darwin, Amiel's Journal, Francis Tiffany's Life of Dorothea Dix, Helen Keller's Story of My Life, Booker T. Washington's Up From Slavery, Susan Coolidge's The Day's Message and the countless leadings to "well-springs" it has given me.

T. R. Fleming, La Grange, Illinois.

It gives me great pleasure to respond to your call for my "indispensables," which I fear are of too personal a nature to suit your requirements. They may be divided into five classes. The first class I shall call the "Reservoirs of Certitude," and include Marcus Aurelius, Epictetus, De Profundis, The Life of the Spirit by Euchen, The Fabian Essays and The Soul of Man under Socialism by Oscar Wilde. The second class, the "Reservoirs of Mysticism," are for me especially indispensable in helping me to contend against a constant tendency to skepticism. These include Bhagavad-Gita, Emerson's Nature Addresses, The Treasures of the Humble, The Basis of the Mystic Knowledge by Recijac, and Thus Spake Zarathustra. The third class, the "Reservoirs of Refinement," through perfect utterance, are of first importance in the training of the discriminating faculties. These include the works of the Master of English Prose, Walter Pater. Nothing can be more eloquent of the universal illiteracy of our time than that Walter Pater continues "the still great unknown writer;" this statement is not merely a personal one, but is the concensus of expert critical opinion. I would like to include all his works, but give only four, viz., Plato and Platonists, Renaissance, Appreciations, and Marius the Epicurean. To this class add Apologia Diffidentes by W. Compton Leith (a recent publication of rare literary value), The Golden Treasury, and Sonnets of Three Centuries. The fourth class, the "Reservoirs of the Beautiful," is made up of books which open the eyes and heighten attention to one's immediate surroundings; books which help us realize that no object in nature is unpoetical which tends to extend our sphere of things beautiful regardless of time and place, enabling us to realize that beauty is not only "beheld in infinitesimal patches but indeed in broad masses." Under this I include Leaves of Grass, Modern Painters, Field and Hedgerow

by Richard Jeffries, The Sense of Beauty by George Santayana, John Addington Symond's Essays Speculative and Suggestive, Arthur Symond's Essays, and, with sincere earnestness, many of the sermons of Jenkin Lloyd Jones, which are especially helpful in opening the vision. The fifth class includes three stories which have given me such keen delight that I have an abiding affection for their authors, viz., Trilby by DuMaurier, Scenes of Clerical Life by George Eliot, and The Egoist by George Meredith.

Foster, George B., University of Chicago.

Plato's Republic, Aristotle's Ethics, Augustine's Confessions, Tauler's German Theology, Luther's Freedom of a Christian Man, Spinoza's Ethics, Hobbe's Leviathan, Locke's Human Understanding, Hume's Human Nature, Kant's Critique, Hegel's Philosophy of Religion, Schliermacher's Glaubenslehre, James' Psychology, Hermann's Christian Communion with God, Boswell's Life of Johnson, Browning's Ring and the Book, Tennyson's In Memoriam, Strauss' Life of Jesus, Ivanhoe, and Kenilworth, Scott; Jorn Uhl, Fremssen; "As Poor Richard Says," Franklin; Nathan the Wise, Lessing; Origin of Species, Darwin.

Freeman, Prof. J. C., Madison, Wis.

"The most helpful and indispensable books" are the very ones you have barred from the list, namely, an unabridged dictionary, ancient, mediaeval and modern atlases, classical dictionary, dictionary of antiquities, the Bible, Shakespeare, dictionary of modern biography. The only book in addition to the above that I should say is "indispensable" is The Golden Treasury of English Lyrics. The reading of that book offers an education in itself and I name it first in my list. As "helpful," your Unity people may very well add Emerson's Essays, Lowell, Poems and selections from his prose; Holmes, Poems and Autocrat; George Eliot, Romola and Silas Marner; Thackeray, Esmond; Dickens, Tale of Two Cities; Tennyson, Browning Selections, Carlyle, Past and Present, Heroes; Keats' Poems, Walter Scott, Lady of the Lake, Heart of Midlothian, Kenilworth; Byron, parts of Childe Harold; Burns, Poems on freedom and manhood; Clarendon Press editions of English Classics, as follows: Chaucer, Spenser, Bacon, Milton, Gray, Burke. (For the less scholarly of your readers, strike out Chaucer and Bacon). The Iliad, Odyssey and John Carlyle's prose translation of Dante's Inferno are interesting reading, but I don't know that I should call them very helpful or indispensable, except to scholars.

I submit the above as my list of twenty-five. If you should ask me next season the same question, very likely I should modify my list in some respects, but not greatly.

Gannett, W. C., Rochester, N. Y.

Is not your question a hard one to put, as well as to answer, successfully? You ask friends to name "the twenty-five most helpful and indispensable books to them." Do you mean,—to them now, and which they would therefore recommend as such to others? Or do you mean the twenty-five which they most gratefully remember, looking back through the years, as their personal shapers? The two answers might differ widely. Much depends on the phase of our growth at which a book happens to catch us: we outgrow our "shapers;" better books on their own subjects are written. Again, your invitation, among the indispensables, to books "possessing classic value as literature" may bar out books invaluable for substance. If it is a *now* question, I won't try to answer: "indispensables" somehow grow few. But I will simply try to recall the twenty-five books to which, looking back through the last forty years, I feel that I probably owe most. The list is a confession of narrow culture—of "one acre enough." Or rather of—three or four little hill-tops enough; for to most of these books my conscience debt lies precisely in this,—that they opened new mental horizons for me. I think of them as my "horizon" books. Here they are, slightly grouped:—

Correlation and conservation of Forces (Youmans' collection of essays on the subject); Spencer's First Principles, Darwin's Origin of Species, Tyndall's Heat, Fiske's Cosmic Philosophy. Lecky's "History of Rationalism in Europe" and "History of European Morals, Maine's "Ancient Law," Clarke's "Ten Great Religions" (Series I)—as a gate-way book. Plato, Epictetus, Emerson—all, and always—and yet I know him so little! Channing, Channing's Life, Robertson's Life, Grimm's Life of Michael Angelo. Keats, Tennyson, Browning, Whittier, Lowell, Wordsworth, Dante; the two latter not found until late. George Eliot—especially "Romola." Charles Lamb (?)

The Bible, with The Bible for Learners, etc., as interpreter. I put this last in spite of your injunction, because, studied in the new way, I know nothing that approaches it as a story of the evolution of religion in man—the greatest subject of all. As simple fact, of all on the list it comes nearest to being for me, I suspect, the book of exhaustless delight; tnough several of the others are "joys forever." As for Shakespeare, I am keeping him for old age! A joy to look forward to;—not a bad plan. P. S. I dare say I've left out three or four very best friends!

Gilman, M. R. F., Carter, Mass.

My first thought was to include all the dictionaries and to fence myself in a desert island with no access to libraries. Then I saw that you had barred out lists of references. If I had to be stranded on an island or make a long voyage, I should take the classics of several languages and dictionaries to go with them, and then "Othello's occupation" would never be gone! I have in this case only jotted down my favorite books, those I have turned to in life for my strongest and sweetest intellectual sustenance. Use the list if you care to, or burn it!

Carlyle's Sartor Resartus, Lamb's Essays, Montaigne's Essays, Ruskin's Modern Painters, George Eliot's Mill on the Floss, Balzac's The Magic Skin, Green's Short History of the English People, Browning's Selected Poems, Emerson's Society and Solitude, Tennyson's In Memoriam, Thackeray's Vanity Fair, Goethe's Wilhelm Meister, George Meredith's Ordeal of Richard Feverel, Dickens' Bleak House, Lowell's Poems, Wordsworth's Shorter Poems, The Golden Treasury, Deutsche Lyrik, Oliver Wendell Holmes' Autocrat of the Breakfast Table, Hawthorne's Marble Faun, Walter Pater's Marius the Epicurean, Amiel's Journal.

Gilman, Prof. N. P., Meadville, Pa.

I send you herewith a list of twenty-five books which I would recommend. They are all in literature proper, from their style, and all are likely to endure: Homer's Iliad and Odyssey, Plato's Republic, Dante's Divine Comedy, Tennyson's Poems, Lowell's Poems, A. H. Clough's Poems, Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, George Eliot's Romola, Thackeray's Henry Esmond, Blackmore's Lorna Doone, Kipling's Kim, Dickens' David Copperfield, Scott's Ivanhoe, Hawthorne's Blithedale Romance, Gibbon's Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, Macaulay's Essays, Carlyle's Sartor Resartus, Emerson's Essays and Poems, Oliver Wendell Holmes' Autocrat of the Breakfast Table, Matthew Arnold's Literature and Dogma, F. H. Hedge's Ways of the Spirit, James Martineau's Endeavors after the Christian Life, W. E. H. Lecky's History of European Morals.

Hall, Bolton, New York City.

Progress and Poverty by Henry George, Light of Asia by Sir Edwin Arnold, Leaves of Grass by Whitman, Plain Talk by Ernest H. Crosby, Karezza by A. B. Stockham, M. D., Story of an African Farm by Olive Schreiner, John Inglesant by J. H. Shorthouse.

Hinckley, Frederic A., Philadelphia, Pa.

This is the contribution of one little man to your shelf: United States History for The Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, and Washington's Farewell Address; Emerson's Essays, Vol. I and II; Robert Browning's Saul and Paracelsus; Life of Lincoln with special reference to the Gettysburg Address and the first and second Inaugurals; Motley's Rise of Dutch Republic and John of Barneveld; Herbert Spencer's Social Statics, Weiss' Life of Theodore Parker, Pierce's Life of Charles Sumner, Speeches of Wendell Phillips, Vol. 2; Dickens' Tale of Two Cities, George Eliot's Romola, John Stuart Mill's Political Economy, Liberty and Subjection of Women; Spargo's Socialism or its equivalent; Victor Hugo's Les Miserables, Wagner's Operas of The Nibelungen Ring as re-told by Oliver Huckel, Lydia Maria Child's Aspirations of the World, Whittier's Poems, Lowell's Poems. I believe there are fundamental principles of life and their ap-

preciations in the foregoing list. There is vitality and suggestion in it. There is moral appeal and spiritual inspiration in it. Personally, if the shelf were large enough, I might put other books on it. I could not spare one of these.

Hodgin, Rev. E. Stanton, Los Angeles, Cal.

The following are some of the books that seem to have most profoundly impressed me at various periods of my experience: Matthew Arnold's Literature and Dogma, Macaulay's Essays, Carlyle's Heroes, Emerson's Essays, Thoreau's Walden, George's Progress and Poverty, Holmes' Autocrat, Eliot's Middlemarch, Hugo's Les Miserables, Auerbach's On the Heights, Tennyson's Poems, Browning's Poems, Whitman's Poems, Lowell's Poems, the Bible for Learners, Channing's Addresses, Salter's Ethical Religion, Jones and Gannett's Faith That Makes Faithful, West's Uplifts of Heart and Will, White's Warfare of Science with Theology, Royce's Spirit of Modern Philosophy, Darwin's Origin of Species, Le Conte's Geology, Renan's Life of Jesus, Morse's Lincoln, Schurz's Henry Clay, Morley's Rousseau, Parton's Voltaire, Parton's Franklin, Burroughs' Whitman, Guizot's History of Civilization, Green's History of England, Munsterberg's Americans, and Psychotherapy, James' Varieties of Religious Experience and Foster's Function of Religion.

Hunt, Emory W., President Denison University, Granville, O.

I am glad to make my contribution to UNITY'S indispensable books. I have not selected those which I could regard indispensable to other people but those which I happened upon at just the right time so that they contributed something which seems indispensable to me. This will serve as an apology for mentioning some of them which will doubtless seem unworthy to others. Cooper's Leather Stocking Tales; J. T. Headley's History of the Great Rebellion; Mark Twain's Tom Sawyer; Green's History of the English People; Benj. F. Taylor's Poems; George Macdonald, notably, his Annals; Donal Grant and Robert Falconer; White's Natural History of Selbourne; Burns; Wordsworth; Lowell; Macaulay's Essays; Arabian Nights; Pilgrim's Progress; Walton's Complete Angler; Thomas à Kempis' Imitation of Christ; Cicero's Letters; Marcus Aurelius; Emerson's Representative Men; Emerson's Essays; Lectures of Wendell Phillips; Peter Bayne's Essays in Biography and Criticism; Sermons of Frederick W. Robertson.

Jackson, A. W., Melrose, Mass.

The task of selecting twenty-five volumes of the most desirable books seemed an easy one until I gave it some thought; then I found it very difficult. First, your readers—who are they to be? If scholars, the most studious books are in order, though I suspect they will not greatly care for your list. If, as I suppose, they are to be men and women of average training and intelligence, the volumes sought must be such as they can read without too great labor. Their list can hardly include Faust or the Divina Commedia or Plato, all of which Eliot places on his five-foot shelf. Secondly, there arises the consideration, not of the quality, but of the kind of reading. My own tastes draw me strongly to literature of thought and inspirations; but knowledge has heavy claims upon us. In reading Eliot's list I was amazed to note that a well-read man need know nothing of the Papacy, the Revival of Learning, the Protestant Reformation, the Discovery of America. Practically all the history he provides is such as may be drawn from Plutarch and Benjamin Franklin. These two considerations explain my list. First, I have eschewed the more formidable books as beyond the range of those for whom your list is to be prepared; and secondly, while strong in the literature of power, my list makes some provision for what a well-read man should know.

Send me your list when completed; I may like to write of it in the *Register*. Mine is as follows; Plutarch's Lives, Student's Gibbon, Greene's Short History of the English People, Fiske's Discovery of America, Autobiography of Franklin, Kostlin's Life of Luther, Froude's Life and Letters of Erasmus, Bacon's Essays, Darwin's Origin of Species, Homer, Bryant's translation, Milton's Poetical Works, Browning's Select Poems, Wordsworth's Poems, Matthew Arnold's Selection, Tennyson's In Memoriam, Two Voices, and Locksley Hall, Emerson's Nature and Addresses, Emerson's Essays, First and Second Series, Carlyle's Sartor Resartus, Carlyle's French Revolution, Morley's Gladstone, Les Miserables, David Copperfield, Henry Esmond, Scarlet Letter.

Jerome, Mrs. Amalie Hofer, Indiana Harbor, Indiana.

Alice in Wonderland, Lewis Carroll; Heart of a Boy, D'Amicus; Back of the North Wind, George Macdonald; Arabian Nights, Pinnocio, Carlo Lorenzini; Uncle Remus, Joel Chandler Harris; Robinson Crusoe, Daniel Defoe; Little Women, Louisa Alcott; Ivanhoe, Walter Scott; Ben Hur, Lew Wallace; Don Quixote, Cervantes; Vanity Fair, William M. Thackeray; David Copperfield and Tale of Two Cities, Dickens; Les Miserables, Victor Hugo; Vicar of Wakefield, Oliver Goldsmith; War and Peace, Tolstoy; Put Yourself in His Place, Charles Reade; Marble Faun, Hawthorne; Lorna Doone, Blackmore; Ground Arms, Von Suttner; Last Days of Pompeii, Lytton.

Jones, Jenkin Lloyd, Chicago.

I have in mind the young man or woman who is at once anxious to read along high lines and to lay the foundation of a library that will grow with the growing years. In addition to the exceptions in the letter of inquiry,—the Bible, Shakespeare, and the necessary helps to understanding the same, taking counsel of my own experience, I would recommend a favorite hymn book, a favorite prayer book, Thomas à Kempis' Imitation of Christ, and a volume of sermons by a favorite preacher. Happy is the youth to whom the "favorite" hymn book, prayer book and volume of sermons is already selected by the tuition of father and mother, home associations and Sunday habits. In the absence of such a selection, one should make haste to discover such "favorites." Much that is rich in poetry is in hymn form. That is the best hymn book which includes most of the classic hymns of the ages and is not closed to the rich hymnists of recent date. That is the best book of prayers for library uses that is compiled from the prayers of the ages, the devout aspirations of many faiths and religions; and the volume of sermons should be from one who combines the prophet's fervor with the poet's insight and gift of utterance,—such as Jeremy Taylor, Robertson, Channing, Parker, Martineau, Phillips Brooks, Bushnell, Henry Ward Beecher, Dwight Moody or Spurgeon.

In poetry, a volume of Shelley, Burns, Whittier, Lowell, Emerson, Browning, and Whitman, not sacrificing clearness of page to completeness.

Some standard anthology, to become a handy companion, such as Palgrave's Golden Treasury, Stedman's Victorian or American Anthology, Quiet Hours, First and Second Series, Sunshine in the Soul.

In fiction, Victor Hugo's Les Miserables, and some one story from each of the following: Walter Scott, Charles Dickens, and George Eliot. It does not matter much which one, for whichever one is read will lead to the others.

In biography, Grimm's Life of Michael Angelo, Paul Sabatier's Life of Francis of Assisi, any standard life of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Darwin.

For thought books, any volume of Emerson's Essays, John Fiske's Destiny of Man, Ruskin's Unto This Last, Tolstoy's What To Do.

Jordan, David Starr, Leland Stanford University, California.

I shall not try to make a list of good books, but the following have been good to me, and indispensable, omitting of course all reference to Shakespeare, to the Bible, to technical science, to poetry, and to foreign publications:

Origin of Species, Darwin; Principles of Geology, Lyell; Essays, Huxley; Essays, Tyndall; Rise of the Dutch Republic, Motley; French Revolution, Carlyle; Reformation, D'Aubigne; Essays, Emerson; John Brown, Excursions, Essays in General, Thoreau; Talks on Psychology, James; Autobiography, Andrew D. White.

Judson, President Harry Pratt, University of Chicago.

Your favor of the 18th inst. is at hand. I am interested in your project. At the same time I cannot see how I can serve it to any particular advantage. It would be extremely difficult for me to select all the most indispensable books in my own experience. I should have to make the number a hundred, I think, or more; and working that number down by a pro-

cess of elimination to twenty-five would be a rather arbitrary method. Moreover, the selection of any man would be based wholly upon his own idiosyncrasies; on his particular personal, intellectual and spiritual needs. When I say, for instance, that Thackeray's great pentarchy are constant mental nourishment to me, and that from "Henry Esmond" down I read them constantly, I am saying what very likely very few others would even comprehend. When I confess that I still find constant delight in Tennyson, particularly in "In Memoriam" and in many of his lyrics, I fancy also that many would not sympathize with me. When I speak of certain books which have been of great benefit to me, like Darwin's "Origin of Species" and like the writings of Tyndall and Huxley, I again would find that many would not sympathize. I have found constant delight and great use in Mill's "Logic" and in his "Critique on Sir William Hamilton's Philosophy," and would rather read either of those books today for mere intellectual delight than any of the numerous so-called novels which infest the book-shelves and which our current novelists have inflicted on a suffering humanity. Very likely not many would feel with me in that. I have exceedingly enjoyed Herbert Spencer's great works, especially his "First Principles." In many respects I do not sympathize at all with Mr. Spencer's point of view. That doesn't in the least degree affect my enjoyment of his very stimulating and suggestive line of thinking. My historical friends are inclined to depreciate some of the historical writers whom I read with great avidity. I love to read Macaulay's "England" and Motley's "Rise or the Dutch Republic" and all of Parkman's books. I never tire of Goethe's "Faust" and of a dozen other poems and dramatic works in French and German and Italian. Again, all this is wholly personal. But if I begin I shall never end, and you will have to throw the whole thing in the waste-basket.

Kellogg, Kate Starr, Chicago.

I cannot give five books that are indispensable—only one is that. When I glance at my book shelves and think in case of a sudden alarm of "Fire!" which one I would seize first, it is Emerson's Essays, Vol. I, and his poems would be second. Then would come Mrs. Browning's Aurora Leigh and Browning's Saul and Rabbi Ben Ezra. Thomas à Kempis would be taken from my dressing table and Living by the Spirit by Horatio Dresser. Robert Falconer and the Newcomes would be my two novels, if two they had to be, and I'd hate to leave Wisdom and Destiny behind. Arnold's Light of Asia has meant much to me, and Whitman's Leaves of Grass were as a revelation of democracy. There are so many near and dear ones that the task of selecting more than ten seems impossible. The Bible and Emerson are the two rocks upon which I could build with certainty. After these two there are at least fifty that come thronging in with almost equal claims. I'll be interested in seeing what the Book Shelf, when completed, will contain, and if I can't "match it up" from my own shelves. Your exclusion of "technical" books and "books of information" has shut out of my list some books that are among my very indispensable ones.

Kerr, E. T., Meadville, Pa.

Hearing of your circular letter calling for lists of twenty-five best books, I was interested to send you this uninvited contribution. Understanding by a "Book" a single composition conforming to the library unities, I would submit the following list of twenty-five best books—and I would say on the best level only, not exclusive. Job, Deutero-Isaiah, Joel, Amos, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Revelation, Bacchae of Euripides, Antigone of Sophocles, Prometheus Bound of Aeschylus, Ferrero's Greatness and Decline of Rome, Duruy's General History of the World, Ruskin's Crown of Wild Olives, Carlyle's Sartor Resartus, Emerson's Divinity School Address, Shakespeare's Julius Caesar and As You Like It, Longfellow's Divine Tragedy, Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, Tennyson's In Memoriam, Shelley's Prometheus Unbound, Beecher's Sermons.

Kimball, Rev. John W., Greenfield, Mass.

Some of the indispensables: Spencer's Data of Ethics and First Principles, Darwin's Origin of Species, Drummond's Ascent of Man, Powell's Our Heredity from God, Gunning's Life History of Our Planet, Newcomer's Astronomy, Le Conte's Geology, Bryce's American Commonwealth, Green's Short History of the English People, John Fiske's American Histories, Homer's Iliad, Vergil's Eneid, Tennyson's Poetical Works, Milton's Paradise Lost, Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, Byron's Childe Harold and Isles of Greece, Spenser's Faerie Queene, Scott's Lady of the Lake, Goldsmith's Deserted Village, Pope's Poetical Works, also Poems of Burns, Emerson, Whittier, Longfellow, especially Evangeline, Lowell, especially The Cathedral, Arnold's The Light of Asia, Campbell's Pleasures of Hope, Scott's Ivanhoe, Dickens' David Copperfield, Maria Edgeworth's Parents' Assistant, Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice, Fielding's Tom Jones or Amelia, Schiller's William Tell, Thackeray's Vanity Fair, George Eliot's Mill on the Floss, DeFoe's Robinson Crusoe, Victor Hugo's Les Miserables, Cooper's Sea Tales, except The Two Admirals, Mrs. Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin, Hawthorne's Scarlet Letter, Holmes' Autocrat of the Breakfast Table, Mark Twain's Innocents Abroad, Tolstoy's Anna Karenina, Channing's Works, Parker's Discourse on Religion, Beecher's Addresses and Sermons, Butler's Analogy, Macaulay's Essays, Lincoln's Debate with Douglas, Wendell Phillips' Addresses and Lectures, Charles Sumner's Oration on Peace, Emerson's Essays, Franklin's Autobiography, Bryan's Orations, Hale's Man Without a Country.

Learned, Mrs. J. C., St. Louis, Mo.

The Iliad and the Odyssey, Palmer's translation; Divine Comedy, Longfellow's translation; Decline and Fall of Rome, Gibbon; Don Quixote, Montaigne's Essays, Bacon's Essays, Goethe's Faust, Pilgrim's Progress, Spenser's Faerie Queen, Milton's Comus, Wordsworth's Ode to Duty, Boswell's Life of Johnson, Motley's Rise of the Dutch Republic, Ben Franklin's Autobiography, Darwin's Origin of Species, Tennyson's In Memoriam, Browning—Selected Poems, Emerson's Nature (I want to say Poems, and Divinity School Address—choose for me!) Heart of Midlothian, Adam Bede, Scarlet Letter, Egoist, Tale of Two Cities, Carlyle's French Revolution, Thackeray's Vanity Fair.

Oh dear me! I've left out Shelley and Keats and Lowell and Jane Austen and Crawford and the Life of Abraham Lincoln and ever so many others that I love,—but it can't be helped! and have put in almost no history—bad case!—but it must go.

MacCarthy, Rev. Joseph P., People's Church, Kalamazoo, Mich.

I enclose a list, as per your request, but I feel that I have not taken sufficient time to make sure that it is final. Homer's Iliad (Pope's translation), Jowett's Plato, Marcus Aurelius' Meditations, Epictetus' Discourses, Thomas à Kempis' Imitation of Christ, Carlyle's Heroes and Hero Worship, Emerson's Representative Men and Essays, Blackstone's Commentaries, Webster's Speeches, Jeremy Taylor's Holy Living and Dying, Kant's Critique of Pure Reason, Haeckel's Origin and Genealogy of the Human Race, Darwin's Origin of Species, Spencer's First Principles, Lecky's History of European Morals, Hugo's Les Miserables, Eliot's Romola, Savage's Sermons, Green's History of the English People, Nicolay & Hay's Abraham Lincoln, Booker T. Washington's Up From Slavery, Burns' Poems, Channing's Addresses, Martineau's Essays, Theological and Philosophical.

Mackintosh, President G. L., Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Ind.

I have your letter of October 18th making inquiry in regard to my indispensable books. This is very sudden, as the young lady would say. I have scarcely thought of the matter in a quarter of a century. However, I am inclined to think Adam Bede the greatest novel I have ever read; Robert Browning, the poet most essential to my happiness; Epictetus is one of my warm friends; Dante is to me greater than any other poet on the top row. Further than this I cannot go today.

Murdoch, Rev. Marion, Kenosha, Wisconsin.

I am sending you, even at this late day, my list of indispensable books. I could add many, of course, but these come first: George Eliot's novels, especially Scenes from Clerical Life, Romola and Middlemarch; George Meredith's novels, especially The Egoist and The Ordeal of Richard Feveral; Browning's Poems, Tennyson's Poems, Lowell's Poems, Emerson's Essays, Charles Lamb's Essays, Plato, Mrs. Gas-

kell's Life of Charlotte Bronte, Cross's Life of George Eliot, Carlyle's John Sterling.

Powell, E. P., Clinton, N. Y.

You suggest a contribution from me for your new book shelf, that will afford a liberal education. I don't believe in a liberal education, and I don't believe in a book education. I had one before I knew better, and it did me a lot of damage before I got one of another sort. Thank God for a splendid father and mother, and a whole lot of home education, before spanking was abolished. Thank God also for the friendship of Professor Root, father of the present Senator Elihu Root; also for a youth overlooking a superb landscape, where Asa Gray said that every tree was a professor; also for a good strong inherited Yankee will and won't. You *can* do a sillier thing than send a beautiful boy to college, to learn to smoke, play foot-ball, get a mussy mess of Latin and Greek and sociology; I can't think just now what it would be, but you probably can. What we want is an education never found in books. I like books, and I like pumpkin pie, but both should be taken moderately. The country is full of mental dyspepsia. It kills manly purpose, fools away the best years, and leaves the American people without a divine purpose for existence. Marvel not that I say unto you, "Ye must be born again".

If you want a good education, not a liberal one, instead of a five-foot shelf of books, take a hoe, a saw, a garden trowel, a grafting knife and a spade. With these go to work, and you will get educated. Use books only as immediate helps to execute. We are getting nearly by the fetish use of books; but I still need more than twenty-five feet of shelving for my indispensables.

Richardson, Charles F., Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H.

I know that I shall not seem discourteous if I fail to send my list of books in response to your kindly request. A reader and critic all my life, I have always declined to prepare such general lists, though in my "Primer of American Literature" is a set of "Masterpieces" in that one division. The lists appended to "The Choice of Books" were prepared by another hand. General international catalogues, like Sir John Lubbock's, President Eliot's, or some recent French lists, always fall into these errors of proportion: they are provincial, not catholic; they mix books of information and books of literary art; and they too visibly allow genuine preferences to be modified by supposed utility. I presume that their compilers have in most cases read the books named, but it is a safe guess that in some cases they have never re-read them. Therefore, after all is said, the public says of its would-be teachers: "They have left undone those things which they ought to have done; they have done those things which they ought not to have done, and there is no health in them." How, for instance, can Darwin's Origin of Species be put on the same plane with Oedipus at Colonos? Is Tam O'Shanter "go-in-worthy" while Wordsworth's Ode on Immortality must remain outside? Shall we fall back on Horace Greeley's three necessities,— a dictionary, an atlas and a cyclopedia,—or shall our catalogue be only of those things of beauty which are joys forever? The squaring of this literary circle is an impossibility. And yet there is the collateral advantage of stirring up our pure minds by way of remembrance. If I were to make a list and include Whittier's Snow-Bound and Burnand's Happy Thoughts, because I always read them once a year, perhaps somebody else would get good by agreement, surprise, or indignation, as the case might be. Therefore I shall await the book-number of UNITY with interest, as a record of the opinions of wiser men.

Robinson, Captain C. R.

Les Miserables, Hugo; Hypatia, Kingsley; Ivanhoe, Scott; Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush, Watson; Works of Oliver Goldsmith. Poetry: Scott, Burns, Bryon, Vergil's "Aeneid", Tom Moore. History: Middle Ages, Hallam; Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, Gibbon; The Dutch Republic Series, Motley; History of the English People, Green; History of the Reformation, D'Aubigne. Biography: Peter the Great and Charles the XII, Voltaire; Ferdinand and Isabella, Prescott; The Civil War, Greeley; The War Between the States, Stevens. Macaulay's Essays; An Egyptian Princess, Ebers; English Literature, Taine; Innocents Abroad, Clemens; Loudres, Zola.

Shorey, Paul, University of Chicago.

Here is my list of, to me, most helpful books. Of the first ten or twelve, there could be no doubt. After that, choice was not easy, but my preferences are fairly represented. Plato, if one book, The Republic; Homer, if one book, The Iliad; Aeschylus, Tragedies; Sophocles, Tragedies; Pindar, Odes; Demosthenes, Oration on the Union; Lucretius, On the Nature of Wings; Vergil, Aeneid; Dante, Divine Comedy; French Morality and Maxim Writers (La Rochefoucauld, La-Bruyere, etc., in one little volume); Schopenhauer, Well als Wille; Taine, de l'Intelligence; Tennyson, Matthew Arnold's Poems on God and the Bible; Mill, Logic and Essays; Thackeray, Pendennis or the Newcomes; George Eliot, Middlemarch; Tourgenieff, Helena; Swinburne, Poems; Leslie Stephen, Science of Ethics; Emerson, Essays; Hazlitt, Essays; Walter Pater, Marius the Epicurean; Renan. Origin of Christianity.

Slicer, Mrs. T. R., New York City.

There are two books only upon which I depend for help and inspiration,—Emerson's and Browning's. Martineau's "Endeavors after the Christian Life" is almost equally essential. I have not the habit of reading many books over and over, as an impression remains with me; it is often a suggestion which comes at the moment and re-reading destroys it; a seed germinating, and examinations destroy it. The thought it gives me by the author, but it becomes my own and is different. I understand by the circular sent that you desire a list of books that we cannot do without rather than those which have influenced us. In that case I should mention Carlyle's Essays which did much towards forming my character in my youth. I wish young men would read them now.

Small, Prof. Albion W., University of Chicago.

Replying to your invitation for a section of autobiography concerning the "twenty-five most helpful and indispensable books", I am very much in the temper of Whistler when a probable client wired him to meet him at the Hotel d'Athene at three o'clock sharp. His reply is said to have been: "I never was anywhere at three o'clock sharp and never expect to be." By parity of reasoning, I have never run up against the "twenty-five most helpful and indispensable books" and never expect to. It would be just as easy for me to name the twenty-five most helpful and indispensable compounds in the drug store. The one which would be life at this minute would be death at the next. I look at my books sometimes with wonder that I could ever have found anything tolerable in any of them. At another time the book that I had supposed I never would look at again is like an old friend met in a foreign land. In order for me to size up any book, I must have the precise mental diagnosis of the person with reference to whom the estimate is to be passed. It could have very little meaning to the conceptualized human being in the abstract.

Stannard, Eva, New York City.

Hume, Macaulay, Gibbon, Emerson's Essays, Ruskin's Modern Painters, Renan's Life of Christ, Paine's Age of Reason, Darwin's Origin of Species, Man's Place in Nature, Forces in Nature, White's History of the Conflict Between Science and Religion, Live and Let Live, Reade's Put Yourself in his Place, Hawthorne's Scarlet Letter, Eliot's Adam Bede, Hugo's Les Miserables, Dickens' Oliver Twist, Tolstoy's The Man, Foster's Benjamin Franklin, Goethe, Tennyson, Whittier, Bryant.

Staples, Chas. J., Burlington, Vt.

Your kind invitation requires more study than I am able to give it but I have tried to do a little towards its fulfillment. The matter lies thus in my mind. There are four great epochs of human culture; the Ancient, the Mediaeval, the Renaissance, the Modern. For a man who is to gain his education by reading alone, the last is by far the most important. In it there are three departments; History and Literature, Science and Philosophy, Manners and Thoughts of the

Time. An educated man ought to taste something of each of these epochs and understand what lies immediately behind the life of his day. The list follows: I. Ancient Life: Plato, Apology, Crito and Phaedo; Plutarch's Lives; Marcus Aurelius, Thoughts. II. Mediaeval Life: Dante, Inferno; Thomas à Kempis, Imitation of Christ. III. Renaissance: Bacon, Essays; Milton, Paradise Lost and Prose Selections; George Herbert; Pilgrim's Progress, Bunyan. IV. Modern Life: (a) History and Literature: Greene's Short History of the English People; Taine's English Literature; Franklin's Autobiography; Bryce, American Commonwealth. (b) Science and Philosophy: Spencer, First Principles; Any Short History of Modern Philosophy, Ueberweg's for instance; Huxley, Lay Sermons. (c) Manners and Thoughts: Lessing, Nathan the Wise; Goethe, From My Life; Wordsworth, Short Poems and The Excursion; Thackeray; Esmond and Vanity Fair; George Eliot; Adam Bede and Silas Marner; Carlyle, Heroes and Hero Worship and Sartor Resartus; Emerson, Essays; Browning, Shorter Poems; Amiel's Journal.

Spalding, Mrs. Ada Pearson, Roxbury, Mass.

Suppose I say that The Slave's Friend, Peter Parley's Geography, The Big Fifth Reader, Some good Methodist Hymn Book (of the old sort) an old stiff-covered Spelling Book, Greene's Analysis, Mother Goose (the early edition), Davis' Mental Arithmetic, a solid book on Geology, a solid book on Physiology, probably the Book of Martyrs should have place, and some sermons on the wickednesses of the heathen and the heroism of missionaries. Couldn't one grow, then, thus rooted? Browning, Walt Whitman, Thoreau, Emerson, In Memoriam, Plato, Whittier, Faust, Tolstoy, Life of Abraham Lincoln, Hiawatha, Egypt's Worship of the Creator, of the manifestation of the Father of life, and of the God that promises immortality; History of Art (if only one, let it be Italian art), Iliad, Kipling, Lanier's Love in Search of Hate must be kept too. Do all these lead to socialism?

Sunderland, J. T., Hartford, Conn.

A list of Twenty-five "Most Helpful and Indispensable Books": The Bhagavad-Gita, the Dhammapada, the Ramayana (perhaps the best form is the translation and condensation by R. C. Dutt), Homer's Odyssey, Plato (practically the Republic, Apology, Phaedo and Crito), Virgil's Aeneid, Marcus Aurelius, The Meditations; Epictetus, The Golden Sayings; Dante's Divine Comedy, Goethe's Faust, Lessing's Nathan the Wise, Milton's Poems, Burns' Poems, Tennyson's Poems, Emerson's Poems, Emerson's Nature and Representative Men, Robertson's Sermons, Channing's Sermons, Parker's Discourses of Religion, Don Quixote, The Arabian Nights, Les Miserables, Robert Falconer, Stanley's Life of Arnold of Rugby.

Thompson, J. W., University of Chicago, Department of History.

I gladly comply with your request and enclose my own "Five-Feet of Culture." The works of different authors vary so much in volume that I have rather chosen twenty-five authors instead. The process of selection has eliminated, of course, many books and authors whose thought has become part of my thinking in greater or less degree. But in the list I enclose there is not an author of whose influence I am not deeply and definitely conscious. This is my list: Thucydides, History of Peloponnesian War; Tacitus, Histories; St. Augustine, Confessions; St. Augustine, City of God; Montaigne, Essays; Sir Thomas Browne, Religio Medici and Essay on Non-Burial; Milton, Poems (not Paradise Lost) and Areopagitica; Sterne, Tristam Shandy; Montesquieu, Spirit of Laws; Borrow, The Bible in Spain; Macaulay's Essays; Trevelyan, Life of Macaulay; Carlyle, Sartor Resartus and Heroes and Hero Worship; Emerson, Essays; Gibbon, Memoirs—one of the most interesting and instructive books ever written; Franklin, Autobiography; Renan, History of Israel, the Life of Christ, and The Apostle; Ruskin, Stories of Venice and Mornings in Florence; Michelet, History of France; Symonds, Renaissance in Italy, 8 Volumes; Keats, Poems; Wordsworth, Poems; Matthew Arnold, Essays and Poems; Fitzgerald, Rubayyat of Omar Khayyam; Adam Smith, Wealth of Nations; Heeren, Historical Works.

Tufts, J. H., University of Chicago.

I found when I attempted to answer your request that I was completely "stumped". Just because my business requires me to use books as tools, so much I seem unable to find any books outside my trade list which I regard as indispensable. And I have to read so many that I don't get time to revert to the books which as literature have, at one time or another, been appropriated. When in college and a little after, I was very much carried away by English poetry. I must confess that I seldom read any now. I frequently use George Eliot's ethical situations for illustrations, but I'm afraid I should not put down either George Eliot, or Balzac, or Wordsworth, or Coleridge, or Tennyson, or Sophocles as "indispensables" to me now. Plato and Kant are the two I owe most to.

Wendte, C. W., Boston, Mass.

In endeavoring to make up a list such as you desire, I grow conscious of how very miscellaneous and desultory my reading has been, especially in the field of German and French Literature. Every student has his hobbies, and many of the books which these lead him to read would have little significance to the general reader. I find, too, that some of the titles here given represent departments of study pursued rather than any epoch-making quality in the books themselves. This is my list: Goethe's Faust, Goethe's Conversations with Eckermann, Schiller's Poems and Dramas, Moliere's Dramas, George Sand's Novels (Consuelo), Lowell's Poems, Wordsworth's Poems, Theodore Parker's Biography (Weiss), F. W. Robertson's Life and Letters, Heinrich Lang's Discourses, F. W. Hedge's Reason in Religion, Theodore Parker's books, Channing's Works, Emerson's Essays, Martineau's Philosophical and Critical Essays, Pfleiderer's Philosophy of Religion on the Basis of its History, Tylor's Primitive Culture, Lecky's Rationalism in Europe, Spencer's First Principles, Darwin's Descent of Man, Fergusson's History of Architecture, Luebke's History of Art, Dommer's History of Music, Conway's Sacred Anthology, the Unitarian Hymn book.

Wicks, F. S. C., Indianapolis, Ind.

Plato, Phaedo, Crito, The Apology; Euripides, Alcestis; Bulfinch, Age of Fable; Epictetus; Marcus Aurelius, Seneca; Augustine's Confessions; Goethe's Faust; Lessing's Nathan the Wise; Maeterlinck's Monna Vanna; Buckle, History of Civilization; Macaulay's Biographical Essays; Carlyle, Heroes and Hero Worship and Sartor Resartus; Eliot, Middlemarch; Thackeray, Vanity Fair; Dickens, David Copperfield; Victor Hugo, Les Miserables; Maeterlinck, Wisdom and Destiny; Hughes, Tom Brown's School Days; Confucius, Analects; Greene's Short History of the English People.

Wilbur, Earl M., President Pacific Unitarian School, Berkeley, Cal.

I have from boyhood kept a list of all the books I have ever read—a curious collection of titles—and I can easily pick out of it the books that have given me most pleasure or profit. Several of these have meant infinitely much for my religious experience, though of too little general interest to have the remotest chance of going on your list. But of the rest, here are the twenty-five that seem to me to have left the depest impress on me. I venture to say it is the most singular list you will receive. Hall Caine's Manxman, Goeffrey Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, Alighieri, Dante Alighieri's Divine Comedy, Descartes' Meditations, Charles Dickens' Tale of Two Cities, George Eliot's Adam Bede and Romola, John Fiske's Destiny of Man, O. B. Frothingham's Life of Theodore Parker, Goethe's Faust, Edward E. Hale's In His Name and Ten Times One is Ten, Nathaniel Hawthorne's Scarlet Letter, Homer's Iliad and Odyssey, Victor Hugo's Les Miserables, Leonard Huxley's Life of Thomas H. Huxley, William James' Psychology, W. Stanley Jevons' Principles of Science, John Stuart Mill's Autobiography, Alice Hegan Rice's Mrs. Wiggs, Walter Scott's Heart of Midlothian and Kenilworth, Arthur P. Stanley's Life of Thomas Arnold, Alfred Tennyson's In Memoriam.

Williams, Mrs. Alice L., Chicago.

The Destiny of Man, wiewed in the Light of His Origin, Through Nature to God, and The Critical Period of American

History, by John Fiske; Erdmann's History of Philosophy, Drummond's Life and Letters and Ascent of Man, Life of Mary Lyon, The World I Live In, by Helen Keller; Handbook of Universal Literature by Anne C. Lynch Botta; The Iliad and Odyssey (I love them for their allegorical meaning, especially the Odyssey, which I believe represents human life with all its temptations, trials and final victories); Shakespeare's England by William Winters; Sermons by Phillips Brooks; Sermons by Henry F. Cope; Amiel's Journal,, translated by Mrs. Humphrey Ward; Emerson's Essays; Chips from a German Workshop by Max Muller; Nine persons of different nationalities were asked to write a love story, each of his own people, and Max Muller wrote the one called "Memories, A Story of German Love"; Letters from Egypt and Palestine by Maltbie D. Babcock; Old Mortality by Sir Walter Scott; Arthur Benson's From the College Window, the Thread of Gold, the Altar Fire, Beside Still Waters and At Large; Lowell's Poems; Robert Browning's Poems, The Treasury of American Sacred Song, selected and edited by W. Garrett Horder; India, Its Life and Thought, by John P. Jones, D. D.; From Gretna Green to Land's End, by Katherine Lee Bates, Life of Dr. Wilfred Grenfell.

THE FIFTY-FOUR BOOKS SECURING THE LARGEST NUMBER OF VOTES

Emerson's Essays	17
Iliad	17
Tennyson's Poems	16
Les Miserables	15
Lowell's Poems	14
Browning's Poems	14
Faust	13
Darwin's Origin of Species	12
Odyssey	11
Wordsworth's Poems	11
Tennyson's In Memoriam	10
Sartor Resartus	10
Divine Comedy	10
Epictetus	10
Marcus Aurelius	10
Green's Short History of the English People	9
Emerson's Poems	9
Plato	9
Spencer's First Principles	8
Adam Bede	8
Emerson Complete	8
Phaedo	8
A Kempis' Imitation of Christ	8
Romola	7
David Copperfield	7
Vanity Fair	7
Whittier's Poems	7
Heroes and Hero Worship	6
Channing's Works	6
Bacon's Essays	6
Ivanhoe	6
Don Quixote	6
Montaigne's Essays	6
Keats' Poems	6
The Scarlet Letter	6
Middlemarch	6
Prometheus Bound	6
Burns' Poems	6
Shelley's Poems	6
Macaulay	6
Franklin's Autobiography	5
Motley's Rise of the Dutch Republic	5
Tale of Two Cities	5
Henry Esmond	5
Autocrat of the Breakfast Table	5
Milton	5
Nathan, the Wise	5
Lecky's Rise of Rationalism	5
Emerson's Nature and Other Essays	5
Marius, the Epicurean	5
The Egoist	5
Dante's Inferno	5
Canterbury Tales	5
Leaves of Grass	5

Four Votes Each.

Eneid—Vergil, Pilgrim's Progress, Amiel's Journal, Crito—Plato, Apology—Plato, French Revolution—Carlyle, Liberty—John Stuart Mill, Life of Jesus—Renan, History of Rome—Gibbon, Antigone of Sophocles, Paradise Lost, Essays of Elia, Robert Falconer—Macdonald, Destiny of Man—Fiske, History of Morals—Lecky.

Three Votes Each.

Representative Men, Arabian Nights, Heart of Midlothian, Selected Poems—Browning, Modern Painters, Confessions—Augustine, Psychology—James, Kenilworth, Endeavors After the Christian Life—Martineau, Literature and Dogma—M. Arnold, Lady of the Lake, Bhagavad-Gita, Wilhelm Meister, Vicar of Wakefield, Marble Faun, Dante, Chaucer, Silas Marner, Ethics—Spinoza, Plutarch's Lives, Lorna Doone, Essays, First and Second Series—Emerson, Mill on the Floss, Omar Khayyam, The Golden Treasury, Up From Slavery—Washington, Critique of Pure Reason—Kant, Minor Poems—Milton, Ring and the Book, Saul, Light of Asia—Arnold.

Two Votes Each.

Essays, Theological and Philosophical—Martineau, English Literature—Taine, Beecher's Sermons, Ascent of Man, American Commonwealth—Bryce, Faerie Queene—Spenser, Innocents Abroad, Discourse on Religion—Parker, Essays—Huxley, Essays—Tyndall, Reformation—D'Aubigne, Logic—Mill, Divinity School Address, Lectures—Wendell Phillips, Robinson Crusoe, Sermons—F. W. Robertson, Put Yourself in His Place, Warfare between Science and Theology—White, Geology—Le Conte, Progress and Poverty—George, Life of Theodore Parker—Weiss, Selections from Childe Harold—Bible for Learners, Richard Feverel—Meredith, Scenes from Clerical Life—Eliot, Life of Johnson—Boswell, The Four Gospels, Hymns in Unity Hymn Book, Analects of Confucius, City of God—Augustine, Areopagitica—Milton, Descent of Man—Darwin, Primitive Culture—Tylor, Thackeray, Two Voices—Tennyson, Evangeline, Agamemnon—Aeschylus, Complete Angler—Walton, Lamb, Carlyle, Oxford Book of English Verse, The Advancement of Learning—Bacon, Poems—Byron, Poems—Matthew Arnold, Pope, Poems—Walter Scott, Thucydides, Vergil, Tacitus, Uncle Tom's Cabin, Society and Solitude—Emerson, New Tables of Stone, Little Women, American Anthology—Stedman, Pride and Prejudice, Alice in Wonderland, History of Civilization in England—Buckle, Age of Reason—Paine, Alcestis, Conduct of Life, Shorter Poems—Browning, Spirit of Modern Philosophy—Royce, Newcomes—Thackeray, Whitman, Life of Lincoln, Michael Angelo—Grimm, Charles Dickens, Walter Scott, Aeschylus, Nibelungen Lied.

One Vote Each.

Principles of Science—W. Stanley Jones, Autobiography—John Stuart Mill, Mrs. Wiggs—Rice, Life of Thomas Arnold—Stanley, Through God to Nature—Fiske, The Critical Period of American History—Fiske, History of Philosophy—Erdmann, Drummond's Life and Letters, Life of Mary Lyon, The World I Live In—Helen Keller, Handbook of Universal Literature—Botta, Shakespeare's England—Winter, Sermons by Phillips Brooks, Sermons by Henry F. Cope, Chips from a German Workshop—Max Mueller, Memories, A Story of German Love—Max Mueller, Letters from Egypt and Palestine—M. D. Babcock, Old Mortality—Scott, From the College Window—Benson, The Thread of Gold—Benson, The Altar Fire—Benson, Beside Still Waters—Benson, At Large—Benson, The Treasury of American Sacred Song, India, Its Life and Thought—John P. Jones, The Ramayana, Golden Sayings—Epictetus, Life of Arnold of Rugby—Stanley, Wealth of Nations—Adam Smith, Essay on non-Burial—Browne, Tristram Shandy—Sterne, Spirit of Laws—Montesquieu, The Bible in Spain—Borrow, Life of Macaulay—Trevelyan, Memoirs—Gibbon, The Apostle—Renan, Loudres—Zola, Tragedies—Sophocles, Odes—Pindar, Oration on the Union—Demosthenes, On the Nature of Wings—Lucretius, French Morality and Maxim Writers, Well als Wille—Schopenhauer, de l'Intelligence—Taine, Poems on God and the Bible—M. Arnold, Essays—Mill, Pendennis—Thackeray, Helena—Tourgenieff, Poems—Swinburne, Science of Ethics—Leslie Stevens, Essays—Hazlitt, From Gretna Green to Land's End—Katherine Lee Bates, Life of Dr. Wilfred Grenfell, Life of Charlotte Bronte—Mrs. Gaskell, Life of George Eliot—Cross, John Sterling—Carlyle, Age of Fable—Bulfinch, Seneca, Monna Vanna—Maeterlinck, Wisdom and

Destiny—Maeterlinck, Tom Brown's School Days—Hughes, Stones of Venice, Mornings in Florence, History of France—Michelet, Renaissance in Italy, 8 Vols.—Symonds, Essays—Matthew Arnold, Poems—Matthew Arnold, Historical Works—Heeren, Poems—Schiller, Dramas—Schiller, Kant, Conversations with Eckermann, Dramas—Moliere, Consuelo—George Sand, Discourses—Heinrich Lang, Reason in Religion—Hedge, Origin of Christianity—Renan, Hume, Gibbon, Man's Place in Nature, Forces in Nature, Live and Let Live, The Man—Tolstoy, Benjamin Franklin—Foster, Goethe, Oliver Twist, Bryant, George Herbert, History of Modern Philosophy—Ueberweg, Lincoln's Debate with Douglas, Oration on Peace—Sumner, Man Without a Country—Hale, Orations—Bryan, History of Israel—Renan, Comus—Milton, Ode to Duty—Wordsworth, Commentaries—Blackstone, Speeches—Webster, Holy Living and Dying—Taylor, Origin and Genealogy of the Human Race—Haeckel, Sermons—Savage, Abraham Lincoln—Nicolay and Hay, Hypatia, Bonnie Brier Bush, Philosophy of Religion—Pfleiderer, Life of Theodore Parker—Frothingham, History of Architecture—Fergusson, History of Art—Luebke, History of Music—Dommer, Sacred Anthology—Conway, Theodore Parker's Books, Robertson's Life and Letters, The Manxman—Caine, Meditations—Descartes, In His Name—Hale, Ten Times One is Ten—Hale, Life of Thomas H. Huxley—Huxley, Huxley's Lay Sermons, From My Life—Goethe, The Excursion—Wordsworth, Thoreau, Tolstoy, Hiawatha, Egypt's Worship of the Creator, History of Art (preferably Italian), Kipling, Love in Search of Hate—Lanier, Dog of Flanders—Ouida, The Dhammapada, Goldsmith, Poems—Tom Moore, Middle Ages—Hallam, Charles XII.—Voltaire, Ferdinand and Isabella—Prescott, Civil War—Greeley, The War Between the States—Stevens, An Egyptian Princess—Ebers, As You Like It, Divine Tragedy, Prometheus Unbound, Data of Ethics—Spencer, Heredity from God, Life History of our Planet—Gunning, Astronomy—Newcomer, American Histories—Fiske, Isles of Greece, Deserted Village, Poems—Longfellow, The Cathedral—Lowell, Pleasures of Hope—Campbell, Parents' Assistant—Edgeworth, Tom Jones—Fielding, Amelia—Fielding, William Tell, Sea Tales (except Two Admirals)—Cooper, Peter the Great—Voltaire, Anna Karenina—Tolstoy, Analogy—Butler, John Brown—Thoreau, Excursions—Thoreau, Essays in General—Thoreau, Autobiography—White, Critique—Mill, Macaulay's England, Parkman, Job, Deutero—Isaiah, Joel, Amos, Revelation, Bacchae—Euripides, Greatness and Decline of Rome—Ferrero, General History of the World—Duruy, Crown of Wild Olives, Ward's Ancient Lowly, Julius Coesar, Cicero's Letters, Essays—Peter Bayne, Student's Gibbon, Discovery of America—Fiske, Life of Luther—Kostlin, Life and Letters of Erasmus—Froude, Locksley Hall, Gladstone—Morley, Heart of a Boy—D'Amicus, Back of the North Wind—Macdonald, Pinnoccio—Lorenzini, Uncle Remus, Ben Hur, War and Peace—Tolstoy, Ground Arms—Von Suttner, Last Days of Pompeii, Stephenson, Principles of Geology—Lyell, On the Heights—Auerbach, Ethical Religion—Salter, Faith that makes Faithful, Uplifts of Heart and Will—West, Lincoln—Morse, Henry Clay—Shurz, Rousseau—Morley, Voltaire—Parton, Franklin—Parton, Whitman—Burroughs, History of Civilization—Guizot, Americans—Munsterberg, Psychotherapy—Munsterberg, Varieties of Religious Experience—James, Function of Religion—Foster, Leather Stocking Tales—Cooper, History of the Great Rebellion—Headley, Tom Sawyer, Poems—B. F. Taylor, Annals—Macdonald, Donal Grant, Natural History of Selborne—White, La Lire Francaise, Poet at the Breakfast Table, Poems—Clough, Kim—Kipling, Blithedale Romance—Hawthorne, Ways of the Spirit—Hedge, Plain Talk—Crosby, Karezza—Stockham, Story of an African Farm—Schreiner, Jean Inglesant—Shorthouse, United States History for Declaration of Independence, Constitution of United States, Washington's Farewell Address, Paracelsus, Lincoln with reference to Gettysburg Address and first and second inaugurals, John of Barneveld—Motley, Social Statics—Spencer, Life of Charles Sumner—Pierce, Speeches—Wendell Phillips—Vol. II, Political Economy—Mill, Subjugation of Women—Mill, Socialism—Spargo, Aspirations of the World—Child, Walden, Poems on Freedom and Manhood—Byron, Spenser, Gray, Burke, Correlation and Conservation of Forces—Youmans, Heat—Tyndall, Cosmic Philosophy—Fiske, Ancient Law—Maine, Ten Great Religions—Clarke, Channing's Life, Robertson's Life, Magic Skin—Balzac, Bleak House, Shorter Poems—Wordsworth, Deutsch Lyrik, Sonnets of Three Centuries, Field and Hedgerow—Jeffries, The Sense of Beauty—Santayana, Essays—J. A. Symonds, Essays—Arthur Symonds, Sermons—Jenkin Lloyd Jones, Trilby, Aristotle's Ethics, German Theology—Tauler, Freedom of a Christian Man—Luther, Selections—Browning, Leviathan—Hobbe, Human Understanding—Locke, Human Nature—Hume, Philosophy of Religion—Hegel, Glaubenslehre—Schliermacher, Christian Communion with God—Herman, Life of Jesus—Strauss, Jorn Uhl—Tremessen, "As Poor Richard Says"—Franklin, Resurrection—Tolstoy, Paul's Epistles, Lowell, Prayers—Theodore Parker, Dreams—Schreiner, Peter Halket—Schreiner, Looking Backward—Bellamy, Prose Poems—Ingersoll, Darkest England—Booth, Liberty of Man, Woman and Child—Ingersoll, Life and Letters of Charles Darwin, Life of Dorothea Dix—Tiffany, Story of My Life—Helen Keller, The Day's Message—Coolidge, De Profundis, Life of the Spirit—Euchen, Fabian Essays, Soul of Man Under Socialism—Oscar Wilde, Treasures of the Humble, Basis of Mystic Knowledge—Recijac, Thus Spake Zarathustra, Plato and Platonists—Pater, Renaissance—Pater, Appreciations—Pater, Apologia Diffidentes—W. C. Leith, Gray's Elegy, Laws of Manu, Politics—Aristotle, Republic—Cicero, Jerome's Letters, Sermons—Chrysostom, Death of King Arthur—Malory, Chronicles of Foissart, Petrarch's Letters, Ancient Society—Morgan, Ancient City—De Coulanges, Physics and Politics—Bagehot, Essays, First Series—Emerson, Ibsen's Social Plays, Meredith, Irving, Longfellow, Aldrich, Princess—Tennyson, Great Order—Lowell, Some Minor Poems—Lowell, Golden Legend, Sinai and Palestine—Stanley, Language and the Study of Language—Whitney, Essays, Theological and Philosophical—Martineau, Critical History of Free Thought—Farrar, Idea of God—Fiske, David Elginbrod—Macdonald, Robert Elsmere—Ward, Poems—Holmes, Confessions of an Opium Eater—De Quincey, Rasselas—Dr. Johnson, Cato Major—Cicero, Utopia, Il Penseroso—Milton, L'Allegro—Milton, Pickwick Papers, Addison, Goldsmith, Ruskin, Arnold, Paradise—Dante, Crepet—Les Poetes Francais, English Poets—Ward, Spencer, Spenser, Shakespeare's Sonnets, Poems—Coleridge, Sigurd the Volsung

William Morris, Dryden, Rossetti, Landor, Ben Johnson, Victorian Anthology—Stedman, Memoirs of Benvenuto Cellini, Hiawatha, Sentimental Tommy, Poems—Eugene Field, Poems—Stevenson, Essays, Selections—Morrison, Essays, Selections—Addison, The Study Class—McMahan, Georgics—Vergil, Timaeus—Plato, Ethics—Aristotle, Polity of Athens, Horace, Livy, Marcus, Antonius, Shakespeare, Ninety Three, Newton, Carlyle, Encyclopedia Britannica—X and IX, Purgatory—Dante, On Compromise—Morley, Dialogues—Plato, Renaissance—Symonds, Anthology—Ruskin, Cloister and the Hearth, Tom Brown at Rugby, Tom Brown at Oxford, Soldiers Three—Kipling, Bob, Son of Battle, New Creations of Man, Blot in the 'Scutcheon, Prelude—Wordsworth, Ten Great Poems—Wordsworth, Old Fashioned Girl, Together, Reliques—Percy, Emma, Plays of Bernard Shaw, Through the Looking Glass, Life of Alice Freeman Palmer, Orestes, Essays on the Poets—De Quincey, Miscellaneous Essays—De Quincey, Sesame and Lilies, Ethics of the Dust, Essays, Vol. I—Emerson, Aurora Leigh, Rabbi Ben Ezra, Living by the Spirit—Dresser, Bible, Wisdom and Destiny, A favorite prayer book, a favorite hymn book, a standard anthology, a volume of sermons, Unto This Last, What To Do, Paul Sabatier's Life of Francis of Assisi, any volume of Emerson's Essays, any standard Life of Washington, Jefferson, Darwin.

Among others heard from who were interested but did not send lists were:

Robert LaFollette, U. S. Senator; James G. K. McIure, Chicago; Samuel C. Beane, Grafton, Mass.; Sam Walter Foss, Somerville, Mass.; George L. Burr, Cornell University; W. M. Salter, Cambridge, Mass.; W. F. Bohn, Oberlin College, Ohio; David Kinley, University of Illinois, Urbana; Ida M. Tarbell, New York City; James R. Angell, University of Chicago; Richard Burton, Memphis; F. L. Hosmer, Berkeley; Charles F. Dole, Boston.

THE INDISPENSABLES IN LITERATURE

By John C. Kimball

The list of books which I send to UNITY as a help in making up the fifty "indispensables" which are to constitute the "five

feet of culture," embraces some entire volumes and in some cases the entire collection of the writer's works. But let me explain that I insert them thus in bulk because it is the only form in which their indispensable parts are available, and not because their contents are entirely of that character. The writer never yet lived all of whose productions are worth preserving in any form, at least for the ordinary reader, much less in a five-foot space. My great objection to ex-President Eliot's list is that with what is undeniably precious he puts in under the same great names so much great rubbish,—like a farmer using his small barn, large enough only for his winter's corn, in which to store all the stalks, roots and husks in connection with which the corn grows.

The greatest literary foible of our day is the issuing of complete editions of a dead writer's books, and the greatest wrong that can be done alike the writer and his readers is the raking up of every scrap he has put forth, often what he himself in his later years had rejected, to be re-issued in connection with his best work. With the multitude of new books now issuing from the press, not to speak of newspapers and magazines and UNITY, with which a person must get at least a speaking acquaintance, and with our reading life, even when prolonged with spectacles, limited to sixty or seventy years, how is it possible to wade through the whole of all past great writers; for instance, Byron's Hours of Idleness or poems of Tennyson? You like that on "Spring," and have you any time or eyesight left for reading over and over, as anything meant for culture ought to be read, even what can be held on a five-fott shelf?

For myself, I am not ashamed to acknowledge, as Abraham Lincoln did, that while some parts of Shakespeare I have read many times, there are others I have never read at all and never expect to, unless, along with my survival, they last over into eternity, or unless I am put in prison and have them there on a five-foot shelf. The fact is, two-thirds of Byron, one-third of Tennyson, nine-tenths of Wordsworth—all three my favorites—and on an average one-half of all our great classic authors, hardly excepting those of Scripture, could be dropped out of existence with advantage to themselves and no loss to the world at large. I cannot quite endorse the words ascribed to the Caliph Omar who, in ordering the destruction of the great Alexandrian library, said, "If its 100,000 volumes agreed with the Koran they were useless, and if they did not so agree, they ought to be burned," for doubtless there were at least five feet of them worthy of being preserved; but their loss, in view of the millions that we are having now produced, can hardly be considered an unmitigated evil.

I want to see the time when some publishing house will put forth, not elegant extracts from the world's great writers, for they are always unsatisfactory, but editions of simply their best work, each part in itself complete. When some one in Charles Lamb's day complained to him that there were more books in the world already than there were shelves to hold them, he replied, or, rather, wished he had replied, "Then let us build more shelves." What we need now is not more shelves, but less; reducing them, not as a German writer tried to do, by publishing two large volumes to prove that too many books were being published, but by letting the larger part of them be issued and have their day and do their work, and then, like the leaves of the orchard and the forest, drop down and disappear. Of course there will be a wide margin in the case of world's great writers about which opinions would differ as to their value. But using indispensability as a test, below this margin there are immense sections with regard to which all but book-worms and millionaire collectors, who never read a book, would joyfully agree. And when such an edition is published, I trust UNITY, dropping its now proposed shelf, will put another in its place, and I am sure it will then hold many more than fifty names.

In my list I have included some volumes that are usually regarded as sciences and which UNITY may think should come under the head of "information" rather than under that of literature. But to me the two realms are not necessarily distinct, even when some departments of mathematics, especially transcendental mathematics, dealing with the infinite, are the science meant.

At any rate, natural science, that is, information about nature, has assuredly its literary side, for nature is well called a book, the greatest of books, one of which the greatest of all Beings is the author; and natural science is only its translation into human speech. I cannot remember when such translations were not as interesting to me as any story that was ever written out first in words, Robinson Crusoe, for instance, and for the same reason,—because they appealed to the imagination and to the artistic sense, and, if wanting in style themselves, brought me in contact with nature's style. Take such a book as the old, now forgotten one, entitled "Conversations on Chemistry." I got hold of it in my base-ball-playing days, a game which in itself I liked exceedingly. But when Sam Blood came into the town one Saturday afternoon to get me to complete a side for a game out on the village green, he found me so immersed in the chapter on "The Affinity of Acids and Alkalies" and so fascinated by it that he could not tease me into leaving it for any other sport, and went back mad, proclaiming among the many other evidences of my being a fool that I "was reading a book!"

Of course there is a difference in scientific works as to haw far they interpret to us the literary side of nature, the same as there is in those dealing with human affairs. Darwin, in spite of his disclaimer that the poetic element in him had become atrophied, does it on a magnificent scale, the closing words of his "Origin of Species" being among the very gems of literature. There cannot be a work written on Astronomy, not even the commonest school book, which does not have in it something of epic grandeur, Byron well calling the stars "the poetry of heaven," and Shakespeare telling us

> There's not the smallest star which thou beholdest
> But in his orbit like an angel sings,
> Still quiring to the young eyed cherubim.

What are Sherlock Holmes' detective stories for dramatic interest in comparison with the record of Madame and Professor Curie's long baffled but at last victorious search for the element radium, itself a poetic mystery, or Le Verrier's running down with his long line of figures on the scent of the far-off planet Neptune? Mars of the battlefield was never engaged on the pages of history with his weapons of gun and sword in anything more absorbing to the imagination than the star Mars on the page of the evening sky, as interpreted to us by Lowell, is now offering in an assault whose weapons are the telescope and photographic plate. And here on our own earth the very rocks under the touch of the geologist's hammer and through his pen, become rhythmic with a song older than Homer's, and fuller alike of tragedies and triumphs than those of Aeschylus and Euripides.

Then the best part of all literature, indeed its most distinctive part, is not so much what it says directly as what it indirectly suggests, in the train of thoughts and emotions it starts in the reader's own mind. Such is pre-eminently the characteristic of nature both in itself and often even more in its scientific translations. It takes the Nebular Hypothesis to bring out all the meaning of Addison's verse:—

> "Fast as the evening shades prevail,
> The moon takes up the wondrous tale,
> And nightly to the listening earth
> Repeats the story of her birth."

Wordsworth's words are surely not less true to the botanist's sight than to the physical eye,—

> "The humblest flower that blows can give
> Thoughts which do often lie too deep for tears."

Such poems as Byron's Ocean, Henry Ware's Ursa Major, Tennyson's The Higher Pantheism and long passages in his In Memoriam owe how much of their charm to the vistas of the imagination which rise out of their accurate information about nature, just as the "rainbow's vermeil-tinted hues" rise out of the sun's white light. Who in reading Paradise Lost does not wish that Milton had had in his mind, jeweled through "the optic glass," the Copernican rather than the Ptolemaic system of the universe? How beyond even old Homer's description of the starry night, lovely as it is, does the telescope add to the feeling of its poetic sublimity with which one looks up into the starry night! And in prose, one of the special

reasons why I like Drummond, and Gunning—never appreciated as he ought to have been—and Proctor, and Grant Allen, and Romanes, and Le Conte, and John Fiske, and our own Henry M. Simmons and, pre-eminently, Emerson, and keep keep them within reach on my literature shelf, is that though not great lights as discoverers of scientific facts, they give us so nobly these suggestive up-looks into nature,—ladders lifted heavenward. Even when science rests its head on a stone, on which are the angels of God ascending and descending, it helps us to hear how not on Parnassian heights alone,

"But in the mud and scum of things,
There alway, alway, something sings."

SOME RECENT STORIES

The Confession of Seymour Vane. (R. F. Fenno & Co.) In the "Confession of Seymour Vane," Miss Ellen Snow swings two startling triangular situations which are suggested in the beginning of the series of letters, into the natural but wholly unexpected figure of a quadrangle as the denouement of the book. Given Seymour Vane, his wife and his pyschic attraction Leila as one triangle; his wife, his brother Averill and himself as the other as the material for our problem, we follow its development and solution through Seymour's eyes and are as much surprised as he when we emerge from the entanglement with Mr. and Mrs. Vane, and Averill and Leila harmoniously joined to each other and adjoining sides of the quadrangle. Two new ideas enter the foreground of the well-known problem: one, that of a young girl (Leila) searching the qualities necessary to a good husband, by observing her married friends; the other, the possibility of a peculiar pyschic, almost hypnotic attraction existing between a girl and the faithful husband of another. And in every way we are led to believe now as always that even the "intellectual affinity" (unless one of "inherent sympathy, comradeship, mutual interest and complementary qualities"), is merely a passing infatuation and not an attribute of the home.

Echoes from Oak Street. (Ruthella Benjamin.) Echoes from the Twentieth Century Prayer Meeting of a Methodist church reach our ears through the accurate and sympathetic pen of Ruthella Benjamin. Religious questions which have come through the ages as part of our natural inheritance, are discussed in general and in detail alike by pastor, layman, artisan, professor and home-maker, and the tendency of the modern churches to borrow from the schools the principles of the modern sciences, especially in philosophy and psychology, and to apply this added knowledge practically in the affairs of life, is very marked. Old and new interpretations of church doctrines are offered in contrast with an effort to find a common ground lofty enough for the idealist, accessible to the materialist.

The Toil of Men. (Putnam's Sons.) With Querido we observe and study "The Toil of Men" in Holland, following in detail the work of the market-gardeners which varies with the seasons. The study of their lives is careful, comprehensive and realistic to a degree of brutality found elsewhere in the works of Balzac. The grinding blackness of their unending toil is broken here and there by fierce, red flames of debauched passion to which alone the work-dulled brains react. Unable to appreciate the richness of Nature in her lavish beauty except when there is an exchange of some of her products for a few gulden, the peasants of Wiereland show little of the spirit of liberty which caused the Puritans to seek Holland as a temporary refuge in the seventeenth century. That there is, however, a spark of this religious liberty left is shown by the fact that although the reeking toilers are ground under the heel of the notary, burgomaster and doctor, they still maintain their right to choose their faith and there is continual strife between the Protestants and Catholics of the community.

The tragic story of the downfall of Gerrit Hassel, an honest market-gardener of more than ordinary intellect, husband of an imbecile and father of three brutal sons and one avariciously ambitious daughter, shows as its cause the pressure of poverty and the overpowering passion of kleptomania. Unable to check this disease, he lets his master-passion of stealing get the upper-hand once too often and is caught, tried and imprisoned. This black disgrace follows quickly upon the loss of his land from a failure of the bean crop which has been felled to earth by a dreadful storm. The double mortgage is foreclosed; the house is abandoned for a hut; two of the sons are forced to "hire out" and the ambitious daughter Guurt must needs give up her idea of ever finding a wealthy husband.

The logical conclusion of the unendurable home life of Kees, the eldest son of Hassel, follows the death of his cripple son, the only bond of sympathy between a Protestant husband and a Roman Catholic wife; the tavern claims him for its own and the family of eight are left to support themselves as best they can.

Nowhere is the weakness of humanity shown more than in the lives of these Dutch peasants who yield to every mental and physical passion, their wills subjugated by the brutality and grind of toil. Extreme fatigue reacts to extreme debauchery, which in turn undermines the standards of morals and life.

Querido has given us a full picture. The year in itself with its richness of mood and garb is a task too great for the mind or pen of the ordinary writer; but a year out of the lives of the peasants of Wiereland, portraying minutely their existence in the home, fields and cities, is the work of the dauntless author who presents conditions as they are and leaves the heart full of the vital problem of how to remedy these conditions and establish the Brotherhood of Man.

The White Tyrant. After hearing Dr. David Starr Jordan's talk on the effect of drugs on the brain, we are greatly impressed with "The White Tyrant" of Henry Berman, who gives in detail the story of the sadness caused in one community through the sickening and dulling effect of one of these drugs, tobacco in the form of cigarettes.

Lenny Craigie inherits the tendency to use tobacco from his father and this tendency develops gradually through the indulgence of an affectionate mother and the influence of the older boys at a military academy. Forced to leave school by an accusation of starting a fire in his room with a hidden cigarette, Lenny decides to study law. But his drugged brain is unable to grasp the work and, becoming discouraged, he falls in with bad company, gambles heavily and is unable to pay his debts. As a last resort he pawns his mother's jewels, but fearing she will discover their loss before he can redeem them, he yields to the impulse of self-destruction and commits suicide. His death brings grief to his loving mother, awakens the heart of the girl he loved and causes the man who unbecoming influenced Lenny to abandon the vile drug.

No effort has been made to analyze the cause of the deadly grip of the poison upon its victims, but the symptoms of the disease are portrayed in detail. The dullness, dizziness and inability to realize that the cause of the trouble lies in the constant use of the drug illumine the moral which is upheld by the clear, forceful and direct style of the book.

Grant-Land, by Rolando Quiz. (Putnam's Sons.) The author carries you into the mysterious and fascinating land of the Giants with the hero Tiny Tim who has many thrilling adventures in which cleverness and agility outwit clumsiness and brute-force and which lead him eventually to the throne of the Marble Palace. Twenty-four colored illustrations enhance the charm of the fairy tale and add beauty to the book.

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O blue-gray, wind-tossed clouds, why do you drift
Where the far mountain's shadowy forms uplift?
Dost feel some mystic lure of yearning breast
That bids you lower droop until no crest
Is visible? What peace there meets the eye,
Blue, cloud-laced mountains, one with dappled sky!
God-pictured, heaven-hung, thou'rt greatly planned;
Yet thus I muse: "O might some unseen hand
With master stroke supply thy only lack—"
Lo, close athwart, a buzzard, graceful, black
As Erebus. swings low, glides up the vale,
And limns with ebon wing, the background pale;
Shows beauty, flanked by evil, deepest dyed,
Still shimmering on, undimmed, intensified.

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